# United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit



**APPENDIX** 

## 76-2028

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT

NEVIN MAWHINNEY,

Appellant,

-against-

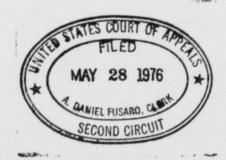
ROBERT J. HENDERSON, Superintendent, PETER PREISER, Commissioner of Corrections, and MORRIS, Lieutenant,

Appellees.

No. 76-2028

BPIS

APPENDIX



WILLIAM E. HELLERSTEIN
ELLEN J. WINNER
Attorneys for PlaintiffAppellant
The Legal Aid Society
Prisoners' Rights Project
15 Park Row
New York, New York 10038
[212] 577-3537

PAGINATION AS IN ORIGINAL COPY

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Docket Entries	1
Application to Proceed In Forma Pauperis and Complaint	4
Memorandum - Decision and Order of February 26, 1975	14
Judgment	.16
Order of November 20, 1975	.17
Memorandum - Decision and Order of February 4, 1976	.13

## UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT

### NEVIN MAWHINNEY

Plaintiff-Appellant

VS

ROBERT J. HENDERSON, et al Defendant-Appellee



Northern District of New York Civil No. 75-CV-97

<u>I N D E X</u>	Page
Docket entires	А-В
Civil Rights Complaint	1
Memorandum-Decision and Order	10
Judgment	12
Order to Proceed in forma pauperis	13
Receipt from CCA, 2nd Cir.	1.3A
Decision from CCA, 2nd Cir.	13B
Letter from Judge Foley to Mawhinney	14
Memorandum of Law in support for an extention of time 7 pgs	15
Notice of Motion	16
Affidavit in opposition	24
Memorandum-Decision and Order	26
Clerk's Certificate	29

76 2028

R 23 75-CV-97 75 550 PLAINTIFFS · DEFENDANTS MAWHINNEY, NEVIN HENDERSON, ROBERT J., Sups. A.C.F., PREISER, PETER, CO.T. Corr., NORRIS, Lt., A.C.F. CAUSE plaintiff alleges he is refused attendance at church services while confined to segregation 75-CV-ATTORNEYS Nevin Mawhinney #66300 135 State Street Auburn, New York 13022 The Legal Aid Society Prisoners' Rights Project 15 Park Row - 19th Floor New York, N.Y. 10038 William E. Hellerstein & Ellen J. Winner, of counsel FILING FEES PAID STATISTICAL CARDS X CHECK RECEIPT NUMBER C.D. NUMBER CARD DATE MAILED IF CASE WAS JS-5 FILED IN JS-6

DC-111 (Rev. 1/75)

NITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DOCKET

-CV-97			
OA.	T E	NR.	PROCEEDINGS
Feb " " Apr July	275 275 276 277 11 2 11 2 12 22 13 31	3 4 5	Filed civil rights complaint  " Memorandum-Decision and Order (2/26/75) dismissing complaint and directing same be filed without fee-SO ORDERED-HON.JAMES T. FOLEY.  " judgment  " Notice of Appeal Sent Certified copy of Record on Appeal to CCA, 2nd Cir. Filed receipt of papers from C.C.A.
Dec	. 15	6	riled Decision of C.C.A. that the appeal from the order of this districular is dismissed for failure to file a timely notice of appeal and it is further ordered that the case is remanded to this district court for a determination on the issue of excusable neglect
11 1	.17 . 19	7	Received all papers from C.C.A. Filed copy of letter from Judge Foley to Mr. Nevin Mawhinney
1 . 1	n. 5		Filed Memorandum of Law in support of Plaintiff's Motion for an extention of time in which to file his notice of appeal
Jan			Filed Notice of Motion, returnable Jan. 19, 1976 at Albany for an ordon extending plaintiff's time for filing his notice of appeal until April 2, 1975, Affidavit by Ellen J. Winner & exhibits Filed Affidavit in opposition by Timothy F. O'Brien
Jan Feb	1. 19 1. 3		Adjourned to 2/2/76 by consent Motion for an Order extending plaintiff's time for filing his Notice of Appeal until April 2, 1976-Decision Reserved Filed Memorandum-Decision and Order of Judge Foley (2/4/76) granting the motion for extension of time to file plaintiff's notice of
			appeal until April 2, 1976, etc.

JAN 14 1975 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK HEVIN MANHDMEY X PIA DITIFF X APPLICATION IN FORMA PAUPERIS X Robert J. Handerson Sunt A. C.F 75-CY-097 leter Prieser Comm. Gerr. Normis Lt. A.G.F. X DEFENDANTS. X

and says: I am entitled to and intend to commence a Civil Action against the about the named defendants. The nature of this action is: The denial of my First, Eigth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, in that petitioner was denied the right to worship in the religion of his choice which is Protestant die and was denied equal protection and the process of law.

I believe I am entitled to the redress sought herein, because as a matter of Constitutional right and as more fully shown in the verified complaint filed here with.

Because of my poverty I am unable to pay the cost and fees incurred or to give security therefore.

Wherefore, plaintiff prays that he may have leave to prosecute this action in Forma Pauperis pursuant to Title 28, U.S.C. 1915.

Sworn to me before this

16 day of Concerns

19/5

scrally Hums

Notary Public, State of How York No. 1412

Qualified in Cayaga County 76.

Respectfully Submitted

Nevin Nathi toy // 135 State Street

Auburn, New York 13022

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT HORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

EVIN MAWHINEY	APPLICATION TO PROCEED IN FORMA PAUPE
PIAINTIFF	x Ventified Complaint:
V.∙.	x verified Complain):
Robert J. Hendenson Supt. A. C.F	X .
Peter Prieser Comm. Corn.	- ·
NORRIS Lt. A. C.F.	X ·
DEFENDANTS.	x .
	X

COUNTY OF CAYUGA )SS

NEVIN MAWHIREY, being duly sworn deposes and says

- 1. Arm Jurisdiction to have and determine this complaint is founded on Title 28, U.S.C. Sections 1343 et seq., and Title 42 U.S.C. Sections 1981-1983.
- 2. Plaintiff herein was and is a citizen of these United States and does submit this verified complaint in support of his motion for: An injunction Asserts The rentinged violating of plaintiffs civil rights and manetary Gain, (1,000) and other relief.

3)	Defendant Robert J. Henderson Superintendint	was and is
	Superintendent Nuburn Cornectional Excility.	
14)	Defendant Peter Prieser Commissioner	was and is
	Commissioner of Correctional Services	
5)	Defendant Noseis Lt.	was and is
	14. In chance of disciplinary proceedings, Auburn Cope Fa.	
6)	on Mevember 22 19 74 rimitif was placed in Sec	
7)	on Heverher 14, December 1 1914 plaintil was deried the no	ht to co to show

#### POINT TWO

Plaintiff was denied his Constitutional Rights to Freedom of Worship.

And 15

Plaintiff was being denied his Constitutional rights to protection against cruel and unusual purishment. Plaintiff was and is being denied his constitutional rights to due process and equal, protection of the law. If not restrained and enjoined by this Court, the illegal and unconstitutional actions of defendants alleged above will conticuously great and irreparable harm in that plaintiff will continue being deprived of

his rights to freely exercise his Religion - Due Process and Equal Protection

Plaintiff does not challenge the Constitutionality of the Rules and Regulations of the New York Department of Correction, he only seeks to enjoin Auburn Correctional officials from their application of such rules and regulation Procedure is at odds with due process.

Plaintiff is being denied his constitutional rights to attend his religious services. This denial being in violation of the First Amendment of to U.S. Constitution. The right to freely exercise his religion, due process and Equal Protection of the Law. And Protection against Cruel and Unusual Funishment

Defendants Mendensen Thomas has an arbitrary procede that denies all residents who are keeplocked and/or in pumitive segregation; the right to attend religious services and/or any religious programs, without regard to the offence. If not restrained and enjoined by this court, the illegal and unconstitutional actions of defendants as alleged above will continue causing great and irreparable harm to plaintiff.

On the 13 day of November 1974, plantill filed no hydication. presvent to Article 78 of the bivil Practice Laws and Roles of Wearlook State Requestions and contending it constituted cavel and unasual prosshment for Auborn officials to functionates to stand out in four weather for up to and exceeding one car hour inorder to ent and the Auborn boursectional Facilities proceedings of denying religious worship to all immotes Keeplocked without responds To the office the commote rample Keeplocked without responds To the first Ammendment to the Constitution of these United States. It the time of this filing setitioner was so Keeplocked and denced.

no home of homenssime plantiff for so literal flowfill in solit of prepared the within Alidral, plantiff for so literal flowfill in solit of prepared the within Alidral, plantiffs exhibit one is however a factore some could be first Judge Arthus Livin Bipovett Jenied the Naticle 18, on the 21th day of November 1171, solitout setteling the Constitutional questions and placetiff received the native of total of 18 actived the native of the of 1814 of 1814 on the 3 address of December 1974 and

Plaintiff has no adquate remedy at law in State Courts, wherefore plaint prays that this Court adjudge and declare the actions of defendants were and are unconstitutional, and to issue and order prelminary and permanently enjoining defendant their officers, agents and employees, etc., and all others acting in concert with the from obstructing plaintiff in his religious worship, socializing with the general population and utilizing unconstitutional disciplinary methods to deprive plaintiff of his civil rights and for such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

When plantill requested due process [notification of the chance he was being possible for in writting and the right to call mitnesses) to establish his innerconnece the Ullicer interviewing plaintill said get the hell out of here. Such is the total disrespect defendants and their officers have for the Rights of the General immate population.

foll into the ditch How can those with total discreased to the supperse lack of our land (the Constitution) teach others to be law abiding

whenefune plaintill asks for injunctive relief and manutary spin at the discression of this bount up to 1,000.00.

It is room at proceedure of this facility when an inmite is placed in salitary he is interview weekly for evaluation. When plaintiff was so interviewed he was intermed he would hemain in solitary mother week Plantill then Requested and was denied his nights as in Mi honnelly Walle 485 F2d 1054.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		
NEWEL MANHENEY PLAINTIFF	Х	NEWORANDUM OF LAW
V	X	
b 1 + T 1/ i C 1 ii -	Х	POINTS AND AUTHORITIES
Robert J. Henderson Supt. H.C.F	Y	
Feter Poisser land Gore	<i>a</i> .	
Marris Lt. A.C.F.	Х	
DEFENDANT(S)	Х	
222 23.22.21	X	
P-1	X.	

Plaintiff, who is an inmate of Auburn Correctional Facility is challengin the constitutionality of this Facility's disciplinary procedures. He maintains that the procedure as applied violates the Due Process and Equal Protection Clauses of the lighth Amendment and the Freedom of Religion Clause of the First Amendment and the Cruel and Unusual Punishment clause of the 8th Amendment of the Consitution of the U.S. and asks for injunctive relief.

Plaintiff does not seek release from his incarceration. He challenges

Constitutional grounds 27 The Auburn Correctional Facility's disciplinary measures as procedures which resulting in sentences ranging from loss of priviledges enjoyed by other immates, to prolonged isolation from other immates and the priviledges enjoyed same and from minor infractions of plaintiff's rights-to outright barbaric and arbitrary infringement of rights guaranteed to plaintiff by the Constitution of the all of which have a significant impact on the condition of his confinement and his alleged rehabilization. There is no adequate state remedy that can dispose of this case without the necessity of reaching the Federal Questions raised (CF, Railroad Comm. V Pullman Co., (1941) 312 U.S. 496), and there is no saving constructions of application of the disciplinary procedures that can be made to avoid the constitution debility (See e.g., Chicago v A.T. and S.F. Railroad (1958) 357 U.S. 77). Even upon conviction and incarceration, immates retain some of their basic constitutionally protected liberties. Serious intrusion on these liberties can be made only by follow the requirements of due process. (CP Gagnon v Searpelli, (1973) 114 U.S. 778; Morrissey v Brewer (1972) 408 U.S. 471)

Accordingly six circuit Court of Appeals have held that prison disciplina proceedings which can result in the imposition of signifivant sanctions must be accommised by and conducted with due process safeguards (Palmigiana v Baxter, (Ist Cir.) 165 F 2d 179; U.S. Ex Pel. Filler v Towney, (7th Cir.) 179 F 2d 701; McDonnell v Woll (Sth Cir.) 185 F 2d 1059).

In applying the "grievious loss" corcept many thirgs come into being it which deprivations are serious enough to require the application of due procesuch as denial of religious worship, possible increase in the period of improment through the loss of good behav or time, forfeiture of earning capacity segregated confinement for 7 or more days, indefinite confinement to segregate

It would be difficult to imagine any punishment imposed by the Auburb disciplinary procedures that would not constitute any further impairment of an impate's already restricted liberty. Additionally any entry on an impate's fi indicating that he has been placed in segregation has an unmeasurable adverse affect upon his parole eligibility. (See e.g. McDonrell v Wolf, Supra, at Page 1964, and 1971; and Hudson v Hardy h2th F 2d 85th, 856) which undoubtedly adverse affects an impate's interest in liberty, even a temporary suspension of invate activities constitute an abridgement of his allready limited liberty. The distinction between a right and a privilege or between liberty or privilege is now more meaningless than from behind prison walls. (Sostre v McGinris 142 F2d 176 page 196).

It is now axiomatic that the requisition of due process vary in accordance

with the specific factual contexts. If the N.Y.S. Parole Board must afford an inmate due process no less can be required of a State Facility Disciplinary Proceeding. (E.G. Morrissey v Bruer Supra.,) Security and Official custody of Inmates (Palmigrando v Baxter, Supra at page 1285) are interests that must be accomendated but the state interest in temporary isolation of potentially dismuptive inmates (Bragiarelli v Sielaff (3rd Cir.) 483 F 2d 508) and must predict their action upon a good faith determination that immediate action is necessary and must be accomplished in a manner consistant with maintenance of Order, that is least restrictive of the ammate's rights and privileges.

Except in emergency situations an imate's interest in preserving his sli liberty and property and society's interest in rehabilitating him outweighs any competing interests that could be obtained by preserving the surmary procedures found at Auburn's disciplinary proceedings.

It is a reason indeed that will permit any prison official today an invate his inherent right to at end and worship at religious services, the invate may choos. (F.A.C.C. 357 F. Supp. 877-88

This issue has been thoroughly evaluated in the many instances where State and Federal Prison Officials obstructed such worship.

Defendants can not justify religious deprivation as due to placement in segregati

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

not only because of the constitutional bar against such restrictions but because plaintiff placement in segregation is u constitutional and unneccessary and his participation in religious services will do no harm to Facility order, or securi and is not within the realm of a disciplinary proceeding to obstruct same.

In N.Y.S. Association v Rockefeller 357 F. Supp. 752, many aspects of conditions found of those confined were discussed. Among those basic standards of human decency was the right to exercise out of doors (CF Hamilton v Schiro 528 F. Supp. 1016, 1017).

The fitness of purishment is to be njudged by applying evolving standards for the cruel and unusual punishment clause is not fastened to the obsolete but may acquire meaning as public opinion becomes enlightened to a human justice, Weems v U.S. 217 U.S. 349, 378, 30 S. Ct. 514. The rehabilitation goal is improved not impaired by imposing procedural protections for disciplinary proceedings designed to prevent arbitrariness and enhance the quality of the findings.

#### COMCLUSIONS

The temporary restraining order should be issued and a hearing ordered, to determine if a preliminary injunction shall issue and plaintiff shall be ordered restored to his pre-segregation status; permitted to participate in his religious services and to participate in the educational and republication program offered here at Auburn Correctional Facility without undue obstruction by further

unconstitutional undue disciplinary proceedings.

DATED: this in dry of orward 19 75

Dorothy & Burns

181 nam Marchumen

DOROTHY J. 8U2-S Notary Public, State of New York No. 1602 Qualified in Cayaga County 7/6 Commission Expires March 30, 19.7/6

. APTIDAVIT	OF SERVICE
This is to certify that on thisday of Ja	muary 7075' T
1 TOPOLOTIC WITH CONTROL -C	1717, 1 provided t
undersigned Notary Republic with copies of al	
The 3 defendants Robert J. Hendenson, P	eter Prieserand Norris
The Office of the Attorney General of New Yor	k State of his con-
The Office of the Attorney General of New Yor. Building, Albany, New York.	
The Office of the Clerk of the United St.	
The Office of the Clerk of the United States New York, Auburn, New York.	District Court, Northern District of
Sworn to before me this 10 day of  Number 1975  Sworn Bignature of:  Don'th. Bunus	Respectfully Submitted  Work Tawhinney  135 State Street  Auburn, New York 13022
MOIRE PUBLIC	

DOROTHY J. BURNS
Notary Public, State of New York
No. 1432
Qualified in Cayuga County
Commission Expires March 30, 19.26

## PIAD.TYP'S EXHIBIT TWO

(REASCHABLE FACSIMILE)

AT a Special Term of the Suprem Court of the Courty of Caynga, held at the Court Howe in the City of Auburn, New York, on the 27th day of November, 1974

Present: Hom. Fortur Brain Blouvelt Justice Supreme Court

State of New York

Summana Court

Cayuga County

DI TER LETTER OF HEVER PARELLES I.	Z.	
Palitiman	x	Junesaar Inux 110. 71:-1555
->gainst-	x	
PORER J. HENDMISCH, SUPPRIMINENT, Ambron Correctional Facility,	X.	
Faspendank.	X	
	X	

Upon moding and filling positioner's patition, seem to November 12, 1974, see an order in this irticle 78 Proceeding directing respondent, to show cause why he should not be directed to rescind his order forbidding ladtering under an archeay loading into the institutional yard and to design from disciplining immites for violation of such an order, and due deliberation having been had, and the Court best satisfied that the application is without world, and having rade and filed its Newmandam, dated Nevember, 27th,1974, it is

CROWED, ADJUDGED AND DECKEED that the application be and the same hereby is denied and the proceeding dismissed.

78/ ARTHUR ERVEL BLAUVELT Justice Surrere Court

SIGHED: December 3, 1974

ENTER:

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

NEVIN MAWHINNEY,

Plaintiff,

v.

75-CV- 97

ROBERT J. HENDERSON, Supt. A.C.F. PETER PREISER, Comm. Corr. NORRIS, LT. A.C.F.,

Defendants.

JAMES T. FOLEY, D. J.

#### MEMORANDUM-DECISION and ORDER

Plaintiff is confined to Auburn Correctional Facility and submits this civil rights action claiming as its main thrust that when he is confined to segregation, he is not permitted to attend religious services and participate in educational programs.

Specifically, plaintiff alleges that he was confined to segregation on November 22, 1974, and was denied the right to go to
church on November 24 and December 1, 1974. Plaintiff does not state
that he was denied the right to attend religious services of his
choice after he was released from segregation. His complaint relates solely to the refusal to permit him to attend church services
while he was confined to segregation but not while he was in the
general population.

plaintiff also mentions on page 3 of his papers that he is being denied his rights under McDonnell v. Wolff, 483 F.2d 1059 (8th Cir. 1973). He claims that when he asked for the charges for which he was being held and the right to mall witnesses the officer advised him to "Get the hell out of here". This assertion is not further developed by facts. See Williams v. McMann, 454 F.2d 1139 (2d Cir. 1972). The administrative procedures in 7 NYCRR 250 et se have been described as recognizing "both the demands of elementary fairness and the suitability of an impartial hearing". U.S. ex rel Haymes v. Montayne, F.2d \_\_\_\_\_, 10/4/74. The Eighth Circuit

ruling in Wolff was modified in Wolff v. McDonnell, 418 U.S. 539 (1974).

Confinement to segregation has been held to be constitutional Sostre v. McGinnis, 442 F.2d 178 (2d Cir. 1971), cert. den. 404 U.S. 1049 (1972). The denial of the right to worship while confined to segregation, in my judgment, does not constitute a denial of plaintiff's constitutional rights.

The complaint shall be filed by the Clerk without payment of fee and is dismissed for failure to state federal claims upon whic relief can be granted.

It is so Ordered.

Dated: February 26, 1975

Albany, New York

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDG

JUDGMENT

## United States District Court

FOR THE

#### NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

CIVIL ACTION FILE NO. 75-CV-97

NEVIN MAWHINNEY.

Plaintiff

LIGINCILL

ROBERT J. HENDERSON, Supt. A.C.F.,

PETER PREISER, Comm. Corr.

NORRIS, LT., A.C.F.,

Defendants

This action came on for this wing before the Court, Honorable Tames T. Foley,

United States District Judge, presiding, and the issues having been duly tred considered and a decision having been duly rendered,

It is Ordered and Adjudged

complaint is dismissed.

Dated at Utica, New York

, this 27th day

of February , 1975 .

Clerk of Court

## United States Court of Appeals

FOR THE

#### SECOND CIRCUIT

At a Stated Term of the United States Court of Appeals, in and for the Second Circuit, held at the United States Courthouse in the City of New York, on the 20th day of November, one thousand nine hundred and seventy-five.

Present:

HON. LEONARD P. MOORE
HON. WILLIAM H. TIMBERS
Circuit Judges
HON. ALBERT W. COFFRIN,
District Judge Sitting by Designation.

#### Einzeikhudgest

NEVIN MAWHINNEY.

Appellant,

V.

ROBERT J. HENDERSON, Superintendent, PETER PREISER, Commissioner of Corrections, and NORRIS, Lieutenant,

Appellees.

75-2086

Appeal from the United States District Court for the Northern

District of New York.

This cause came on to be heard on the transcript of record from the United States District Court for the Northern District of New York, and was argued by counsel.

ON CONSIDERATION WHEREOF, it is now hereby ordered, adjudged, and decreed that the appeal from the order of said District Court be, and it hereby is, dismissed for failure to file a timely notice of appeal; and it is FURTHER ORDERED that the case be, and it hereby is, remanded to the

district court for a determination on the issue of excusable neglect.

LEONARD P. MOORE

United States Circuit Judge

WILLIAM H. TIMBERS

United States Circuit Judge

United States District) Judge Sitting by Designation UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

NEVIN MAWHINNEY,

Plaintiff,

-against-

75-CV-97

ROBERT J. HENDERSON, Supt. A.C.F. PETER PREISER, Commissioner of Corrections, and NORRIS, Lieutenant,

Defendants.

#### APPEARANCES:

WILLIAM E. HELLERSTEIN Prisoners' Rights Project 15 Park Row - 19th Floor New York, New York 10038

LOUIS J. LEFKOWITZ
Attorney General for the
State of New York
Attorney for Defendants
New York State Department of Law
Capitol
Albany, New York 12224

#### OF COUNSEL:

ELLEN J. WINNER
The Legal Aid Society
Prisoners' Rights Project
15 Park Row - 19th Floor
New York, New York 10038

TIMOTHY F. O'BRIEN
Assistant Attorney General

#### MEMORANDUM-DECISION and ORDER

By memorandum-decision and order dated February 26, 1975, I dismissed a civil rights claim of this plaintiff. The complaint was drafted and submitted by him pro se when he was confined to Auburn Correctional Facility. A notice of appeal was also prepared pro se by the plaintiff from this dismissal and after being notarized and placed in the Facility channels for mailing was not received in the Clerk's office of this District Court at Utica until April 2, 1975. According to conceded time computations, this date of receipt was one day late for the effective filing of the notice of appeal. A Panel of the United States Court of Appeals, Circuit Judges Moore and Timbers, and District Judge Coffrin of the District of Vermont, by pro forma order dated November 20, 1975, dismissed the appeal for failure to file a

timely notice of appeal, but remanded the case to this District Court for a determination on the issue of excusable neglect. By formal motion, The Legal Aid Society, Prisoners' Rights Project, New York, New York, which represented the plaintiff on the appeal, move for an order pursuant to Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 4(a), extending the time for filing the notice of appeal until April 2, 1975, which would overcome the one-day late barrier to timely filing of the appeal. There has been filed an affidavit by the Attorney General's Office in opposition, and the motion was submitted for decision on these papers with a memorandum of law for the plaintiff on February 3, 1976, without oral argument.

The basis for the request that the time be extended to validate the notice of appeal is the "excusable neglect" provision of Rule 4(a) of the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure. I have no

difficulty whatsoever in finding excusable neglect in this situation. I have been of the attitude from the beginning of my career as a federal judge that rigid and technical procedural rules should not be invoked against persons in confinement unless there is a flagrant, reckless and knowledgeable disregard of them. In a civil case when it seemed unfair to be too rigid in appeal requirements, my state of mind was the same. See Parissi v. Telechron, Inc., 349 U.S. 46 (1955). Of course, through the years, I was indoctrinated further that this approach was the proper one by the liberal writings of the federal appellate courts, including the United States Supreme Court, that applications and complaints of state prisoners must be accorded the most liberal consideration. The memorandum of law filed for the plaintiff set forth numerous cases in the federal courts in support of this concept.

I find the incarceration of the plaintiff caused the one-day delay. I accept his statement that he believed the notice of appeal had to be notarized because I know from long experience that

the State prisoners have every type of their writings to the courts notarized. I find that the plaintiff in good faith awaited the services of the Notary Public and on March 28, 1975, gave the notice of appeal to the Notary for mailing. I find that the plaintiff completed the preparation and submission of the notice of appeal, to the full extent his imprisonment allowed, on March 28, 1975, four days before it had to be filed in the Clerk's office on April 1, 1975. I find the receipt of the notice of appeal in that office one-day late on April 2, 1975, was caused by no fault of the plaintiff, and, unquestionably, there is present excusable neglect that warrants the grant of the motion to extend the time for filing the notice of appeal to April 2, 1975.

The motion is granted. The Clerk of this District Court shall note the appeal as timely filed as of April 2, 1975, and a copy of this decision and the entire file shall be forwarded by the Clerk of this District Court to the Clerk of the Court of Appeals, Second Circuit, for further consideration.

It is so Ordered.

DATED: February 4, 1976
Albany, New York

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE